India in accordance with their Press Release No. 92|93|77 dated 15th September, 1992. M/s| Roche Holdings Ltd., Switzerland have disinvested their entire equity stake in M|s. Roche Products Ltd. However, they have also obtained Government approval on 22nd March, 1994 for setting up a 100 per cent owned company in India to be financed by M|s. Roche Finance Limited, Switzerland for research and development.

Incidents of theft and fire in Badami Bagh, Srinagar

*549. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 350 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st April, 1994 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there have been incidents of theft and fire at the 2 FOD Badami Bagh; Srinagar if so, the details of each incident of theft and fire during the last three years;

(b) the names of persons dismissed| transferred or otherwise punished for the above incidents; and

(c) what is the procedure for employment of civilians in the 2 FOD; Srinagar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) There have been no incidents of theft or fire in 2 FOD Badami Bagh, Srinagar in the last three years. However an explosion took place on 29th March this year in a part of the depot premises, where arms and equipment captured from insurgents in the Kashmir Valley, had been brought and placed temporarily for display to certain Army Officers. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to investigate the incident.

Civilian employees in 2 FOD Srinagar are selected by obatining names from the local Employment exchange and appointed after the police has verified their antecedents. Recruitment orders from Group 'C' and 'D' employees are issued by the Army Ordnance Corps, Records, Secunderabad and the Commandant 2 FOD, Srinagar respectively. To meet emergent requirements, occasionally some persons are engaged on a casual basis, but the procedure for their selection and appointment is the same as that followed for the other Group 'C' and 'D' employees. Police verification of antecedents is done even in such cases.

Provision of newspapers in flights

*550. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India and Indian Airlines provide Indian languages newspapers for their passengers in domestic and international flights; and

(b) what is the language-wise break-up and; money involved in purchasing these newspapers?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAB NABI AZAD): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The language-wise break up of the Indian Language news-papers being provided by Indian Airlines and Air India on their domestic and international flights is given below:—

Language	Number of Newspapers	
	Air India	Indian Airlines
1	2	3
Hindi . . .	5	11
Urdu . . .	1	3
Gujarati . . .	1	

1	2	3
Marathi . .	2	3
Malayalam . .	4	5
Bengali . . .	2	5
Kannada . .	NIL	3
Tamil . . .	2	5
Telugu . . .	NIL	3
Assamese . .	NIL	1

The approximate annual expenditure of Air India and Indian Airlines on the purchase of these newspapers is Rs. 4.92 lakhs and over Rs. 98.34 lakhs respectively.

Discontinuation of Vayudoot flights in Gujarat

*551. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vayudoot, which is operating commercial services in different parts of Gujarat, propose to trim its operations in the State;

(b) if so, what are the details of services which are proposed to be discontinued; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) At present Vayudoot flights to Gujarat remain suspended due to grounding of the aircraft for mandatory checks.

Mazagaon Dock Limited

*552. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) submitted a bid to ONGC for cost and wrap portion of the ICP Heera Project; if so, on which date it was submitted and what are the details of the bid submitted in this regard;

(b) the reasons for which the MDL did not make the bid as per ONGC requirements, thus resulting in the bid being considered not acceptable;

(c) what actually led them to have a tie-up with an organisation like M/s. P. J. Pipes and Vessels Limited which was a black-listed company;

(d) how did the combined bid become acceptable when MDL, on its own strength, was in a position to bid for the contract;

(e) on which date the MDL tied up with PJPVL and when submitted a bid as a member of the consortium led by PJPVL and what are the reasons therefor and the details of the agreement signed by MDL with PJPVL; and

(f) on which date the MDL came to know that PJPVL was a black-listed company and what are the reasons for forming a consortium with such a company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) MDL submitted stage I technical bid for this project on 14 October 1992 and stage II bid on 20 December 1993.

(b) As per its earlier practice with ONGC, the MDL's bid was not accompanied by a bank guarantee and was, for that reason, not opened.

(c) and (f) According to information now received from the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, vide orders dated 13 August 1993 and 28 February 1994 respectively ban was placed on business dealings of PJPVL in the non statutory sphere with the respective two Ministries, their attached